

SUPPORT S.B No.184 & H.B. No. 5262
Hearing: Friday, March 4,2022 10 AM

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Flexer and Rep. Fox and the Distinguished Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of [S.B. No. 184](#) (Raised) An Act Extending Through November 8, 2022, Several Changes Regarding Election Administration as a Result of Covid-19 and Concerning Eligibility to Vote by Absentee Ballot. And [H.B. No. 5262](#) (Raised) An Act Revising Certain Absentee Voting Eligibility Statutes.

I support [S.B. No. 184](#) because it would extend the right to vote by absentee ballot using the fear of Covid as a valid excuse. It is clear that the pandemic is not over despite the change in mask mandates in most states. For some, the pandemic and its consequences will not be over for a long time, and sadly for some, never. My grandson who is too young to receive a vaccine is undergoing multiple tests for autoimmune issues. If we are to be able to interact with him I must keep myself free of Covid full stop. Keeping myself out of situations that would expose me are decisions I make daily. S.B.No.184 would make it possible for me to be able to vote AND not put my grandson at risk. I think I should be able to do both and I ask for that as a fellow citizen.

I support [H.B. No. 5262](#) as it would amend our state statutes regarding the "illness" provision for absentee ballot voting so that it is in line with our CT State Constitution. In the past year, my close friend was in a traumatic car accident and getting out to vote is a challenge as are most activities now. How is making his right to vote harder better for our democracy? It makes sense to make these changes. Thank you for supporting voter access to the ballot.

Karen C. Scheinerman

West Hartford, CT